

SEAMUS HEANEY

Rare Issues - Signed Books - Limited Editions

Eleven poems

by

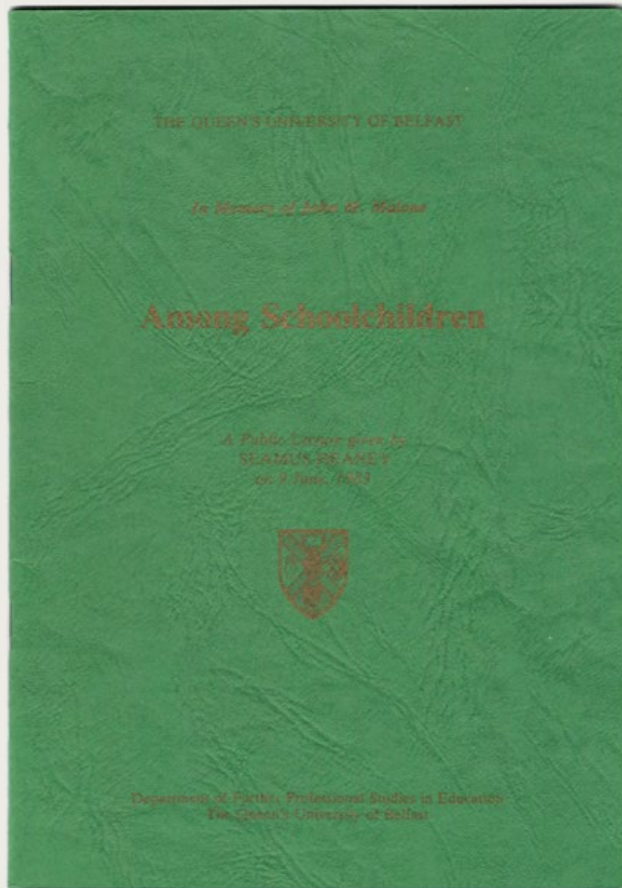
Seamus
Heaney



FESTIVAL PUBLICATIONS
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY OF BELFAST

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**Among Schoolchildren - The Suppressed First Issue
A Rarely Found and Delicate Seamus Heaney Item
A Mint Copy in the Original Green Paper Wrappers**

1 Heaney, Seamus. AMONG SCHOOLCHILDREN In Memory of John M. Malone A Public Lecture Given By Seamus Heaney on 9 June, 1983 (Belfast: Queen's University of Belfast Department of Further Professional Studies in Education, 1984) First Edition, THE VERY RARE FIRST ISSUE, nearly all 300 copies of the first issue were suppressed due to copyright problems involving the W. B. Yeats' Estate. We are aware of no other copies of the true first issue currently available on the open market. 8vo, in the rare first issue green paper wrappers lettered on the upper cover in gilt, staple-bound as issued. 17 pp. A splendid copy of this rare issue, pristine and as mint inside and out.

A SEAMUS HEANEY RARITY, ONE OF ONLY 300 COPIES BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN PRINTED BUT THEN SUPPRESSED BY THE PUBLISHER. After the copyright issues were worked out with the estate of W.B. Yeats a second issue was published in blue wrappers.

The text is a public lecture given by the esteemed poet Seamus Heaney in memory of John M. Malone and organized by the John Malone Memorial Committee.

\$895.

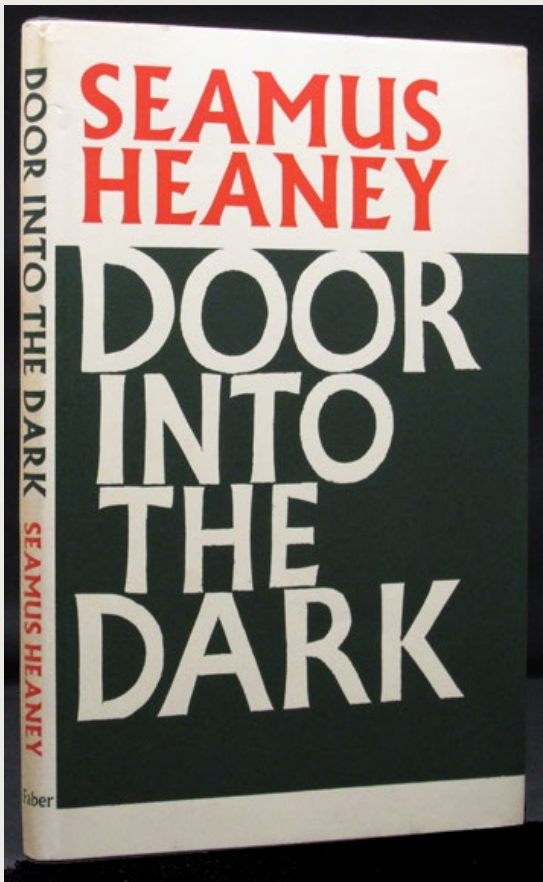
**Ballynahinch Lake - A Mint and Perfect Copy
Very Scarce - Privately Printed for the New Millennium
One of Only 500 Copies - Signed by Seamus Heaney**

2 Heaney, Seamus. BALLYNAHINCH LAKE Turning the Millennium December 31st 1999 (Connemara, County Galway: Privately Printed for Ballynahinch Castle, 1999) VERY RARE SIGNED COPY OF THE LIMITED PRIVATE EDITION. The edition was limited to only 500 (#166) copies numbered in red but was not signed as a matter of course. THIS BOOK IS ESPECIALLY ELUSIVE WHEN SIGNED BY THE POET AS HERE. With decorative borders printed in green with Celtic style corners, text printed in black, numbered in red. 8.25" x 5.875", printed on both sides of a single sheet of 8.25 by 11.75 inch stiff butter-coloured paper, folded once to make the four page card. 4 pp. inclusive of the front and rear covers. A beautiful copy in absolutely perfect condition, as mint.

VERY RARE SIGNED COPY OF THIS PRIVATE EDITION OF ONLY 500 COPIES. FEW COPIES WERE SIGNED AS THE BOOK WAS NOT ISSUED IN A SIGNED FORMAT.



The copy was printed to accompany a reading of the poem at Ballynahinch Castle for the turning of the millennium just at midnight December 31st 1999. It is quite scarce. The only prior printing of the poem was an edition of 70 copies privately printed in Italy for Heaney's 60th birthday in April of the same year. The poem would eventually be published in the collection titled *ELECTRIC LIGHT* in 2001. \$850.



**Door Into Darkness - Signed by the Poet - Rare
One of Heaney's Earliest Publications - A Fine Copy**

3 Heaney, Seamus. *DOOR INTO THE DARK* (London: Faber and Faber, 1969) First Edition, First Printing, SIGNED BY THE POET SEAMUS HEANEY. 8vo, original black cloth lettered on the spine in gilt, and in the publisher's original dustjacket. 56pp. A very fine copy, the jacket with only a touch of toning to the white paper as is all-but inevitable.

VERY SCARCE SIGNED COPY OF THE WHAT WAS THE GREAT POET'S SECOND SIGNIFICANT COLLECTION, preceded by DEATH OF ANATURALIST, this is one of Heaney's earliest publications. Copies as fine as this one are difficult to find in any case, and to find the book signed is even more difficult. Twenty-eight poems and one series are included, among these are "Requiem for the Croppies", "Thatcher" and "The Wife's Tale". Even in such early works as these Heaney's precision, thoughtfulness, and musicality are apparent. He will, of course, go on to be the most celebrated poet of his generation.

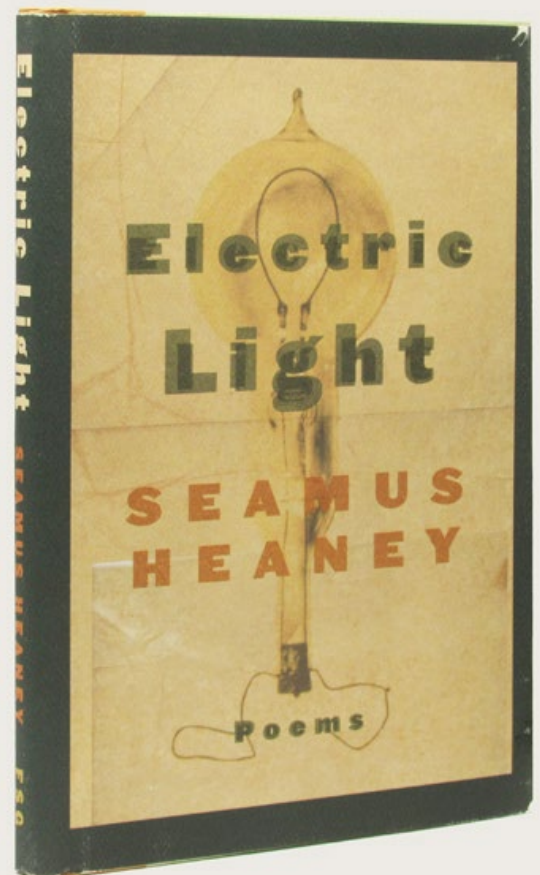
\$1050.

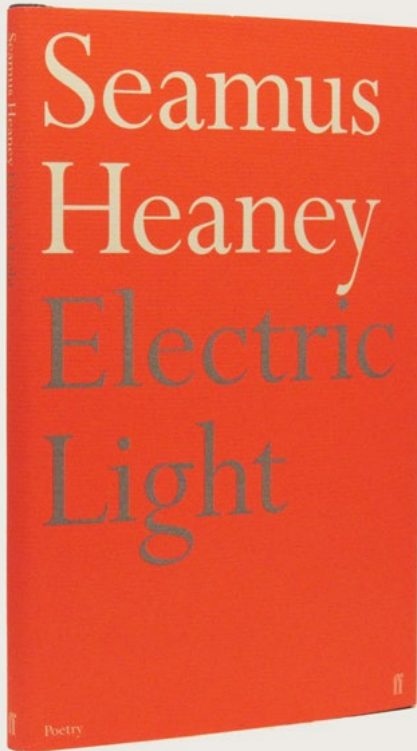
**Seamus Heaney and the Orbit of a Single Lifetime
Electric Light - Signed First Edition - A Beautiful Copy**

4 Heaney, Seamus. *ELECTRIC LIGHT* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2001) First edition, SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR/POET on the title-page. 8vo, publisher's original pale green boards, backed in tan, the spine gilt lettered, in the original dustjacket. ix, 98 pp. A very fine copy, fresh and bright, the book pristine and mint and as issued.

SIGNED BY SEAMUS HEANEY AND AN EXCELLENT AND VERY FINE COPY OF THIS FIRST AMERICAN EDITION. In this collection of poetry the author travels widely in space and time. He visits sites of the classical world, the age of rural electrification, his childhood and the lights of ancient evenings.

\$325.





Electric Light – First
The British Issue by Faber and Faber – Very Fine

5 Heaney, Seamus. *ELECTRIC LIGHT* (London: Faber and Faber, 2001) First edition, SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR/POET on the titlepage. 8vo, publisher's original black boards, the spine lettered in silver, in the original dustjacket. 81 pp. A very fine copy, both book and jacket are pristine and without flaw.

SIGNED BY SEAMUS HEANEY AND A PRISTINE COPY OF THIS FIRST EDITION. In this collection of poetry the author travels widely in space and time. He visits sites of the classical world, the age of rural electrification, his childhood and the lights of ancient evenings.

\$500.

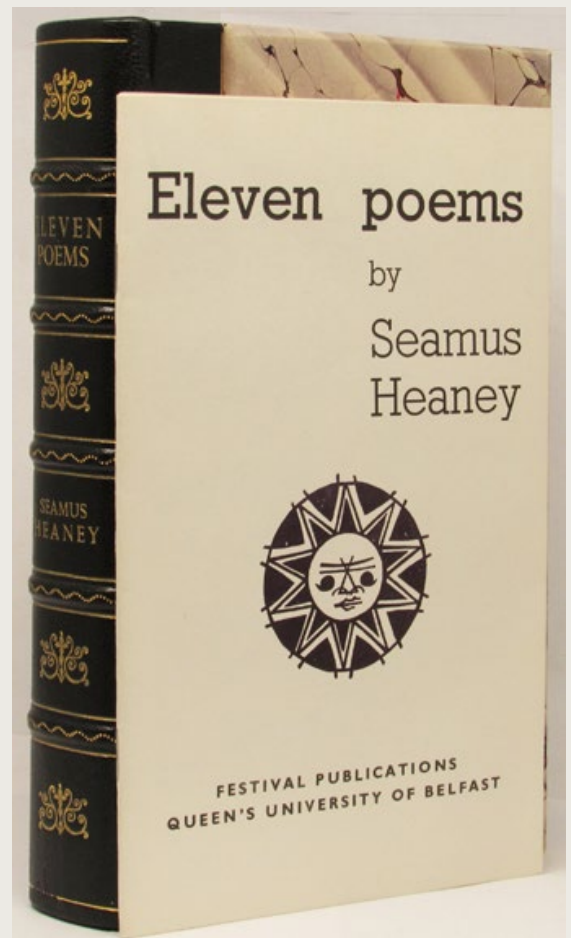
RARE Signed Copy of Seamus Heaney's First Book
Eleven Poems - A Very Small Printing in Three Issues
A "Holy Grail" Item for Heaney Collectors

6 Heaney, Seamus. *ELEVEN POEMS* (Belfast: Festival Publications, Queen's University, 1965) First edition, SIGNED BY SEAMUS HEANEY, the "second issue" with the sun illustration on the upper cover being ten-pointed and printed in near-black purple. 8vo, in the publisher's original printed cream paper wrappers, staple bound as issued, now handsomely presented in a fine fold-over box enlarged in thickness for greater shelf-presence and morocco backed with raised bands and gilt tooling. 16. A perfect copy, flawless, beautifully preserved and presented.

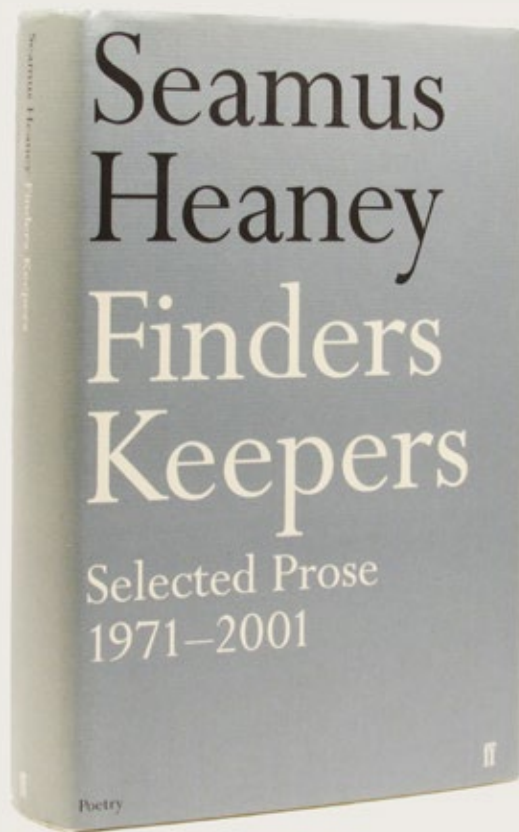
A SIGNED COPY OF THE POET'S FIRST BOOK, EXTREMELY SCARCE IN ANY STATE THIS IS A FLAWLESS AND PERFECT COPY. There were only three issues of the work, and all were in very small print runs. The first has a nine pointed star printed in light purple on the white wrapper, the second is nearly identical but the star is ten pointed and printed in a much darker purple that is essentially black, the final issue was quite different, being wrapped in green paper with an entirely different design printed on them.

The eleven poems included within include 'Death of a Naturalist', which would several months later be the title-poem for Heaney's first book published by Faber and Faber. The others are: 'Personal Helicon'; 'Mid-Term Break'; 'Follower'; 'The Diviner'; 'Peter Street at Bankside'; 'Waterfall'; 'Dockers'; 'For the Commander of "the Eliza"'; 'Lovers of Aran'; and 'Scaffolding'. Ten of these poems would also appear in the later production by Faber and Faber.

\$6500.



Finders Keepers
Seamus Heaney - Decades of Prose Writing
Signed by the Prize Winning Author - First Edition



7 Heaney, Seamus. *FINDERS KEEPERS Selected Prose 1971 - 2001* (London: Faber and Faber, 2002) First edition and printing, SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR, SEAMUS HEANEY. Large 8vo, in the publisher's original white cloth, the spine lettered in black, and in the original dustjacket. x, 416pp. A very fine copy, essentially pristine and as new. SIGNED BY NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING POET SEAMUS HEANEY.

"Finders Keepers is a gathering of Seamus Heaney's prose of three decades. Whether autobiographical, topical or specifically literary, these essays and lectures circle the central preoccupying questions: How should a poet properly live and write? What is his relationship to be to his own voice, his own place, his literary heritage and the contemporary world?"

As well as being a selection from the poet's three previous collections of prose (Preoccupations, The Government of the Tongue and The Redress of Poetry), the present volume includes material from The Place of Writing, a series of lectures delivered at Emory University in 1988. Also included are a rich variety of pieces not previously collected in volume form, ranging from short newspaper articles to more extended lectures and contributions to books, including 'Place and Displacement' (1984), only available previously as a pamphlet, and 'Burns's Art Speech', written for the bicentennial of Robert Burns's death. In its soundings of a wide range of poets - Irish and British, American and East European, predecessors and contemporaries Finders Keepers is, as its title indicates, an announcement of both excitement and possession." - Dustjacket
 \$445.

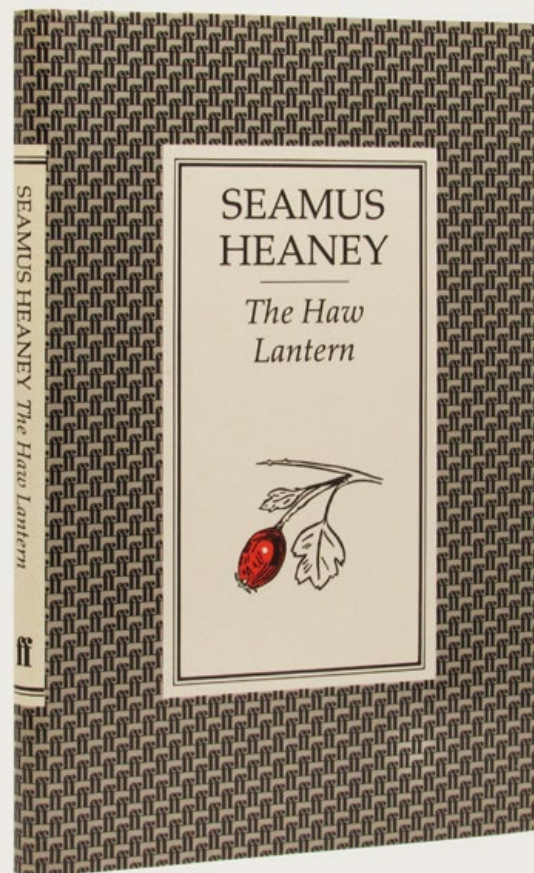
First Edition - Seamus Heaney - *Haw Lantern* - Signed
A Collection of Remarkable Poems - Brilliant & Inventive

8 Heaney, Seamus. *THE HAW LANTERN* (London: Faber and Faber, 1987) First edition, first printing, SIGNED BY SEAMUS HEANEY AND DATED IN HIS HAND. 8vo, publisher's original red cloth, lettered in gilt on the spine, in the publisher's original dustjacket. 51pp. A very fine copy, pristine with a hint of the tanning to the paper as is always found, due to the consistency of the paper used to produce it.

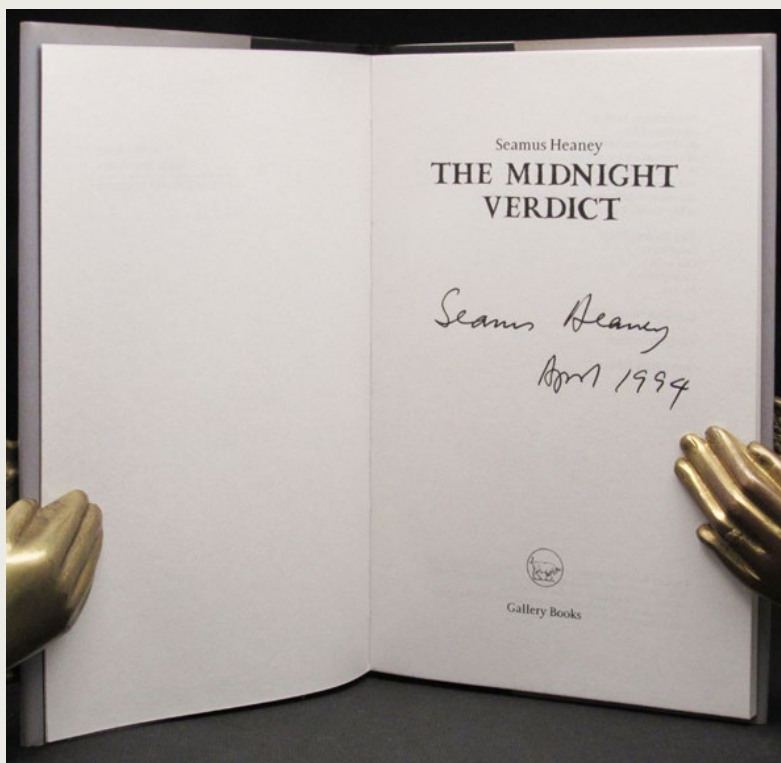
A VERY FINE, PRISTINE COPY OF THIS SPLENDID COLLECTION OF THIRTY-ONE POEMS, SIGNED BY POET SEAMUS HEANEY. The author has dated the signature as 8/8/88.

"Heaney ventured into new imaginative territory with this book. Poems exploring the theme of loss - including a beautiful sonnet sequence concerning the death of the poet's mother - are joined by meditations on the conscience of the writer and exercises in an allegorical vein." - Publisher

"Heaney's voice, by turns mythological and journalistic, rural and sophisticated, reminiscent and impatient, stern and yielding, curt and expansive, is one of a suppleness almost equal to consciousness itself." - Helen Vendler
 \$550.



The Midnight Verdict
Limited First Edition of Only 1000 Copies
Signed and Dated By Seamus Heaney



9 Heaney, Seamus. *THE MIDNIGHT VERDICT* (Loughcrew, County Meath: The Gallery Press, 1993) First edition LIMITED to 1000 copies. This copy SIGNED AND DATED by the author/poet Seamus Heaney. 8vo, publisher's original black cloth, lettered in gilt on the spine, and in the original dustjacket. 42pp. A beautiful copy, as mint and pristine, the jacket equally perfect.

SIGNED AND DATED BY SEAMUS HEANEY, RARE. ONLY 1000 COPIES OF THE FIRST EDITION WERE PRINTED. Heaney has signed this copy on the title-page and dated it April, 1994, just a few months after the December 14 issuance.

"The Midnight Verdict: Translations from the Irish of Brian Merriman (c.1745-1805) and from the Metamorphoses of Ovid

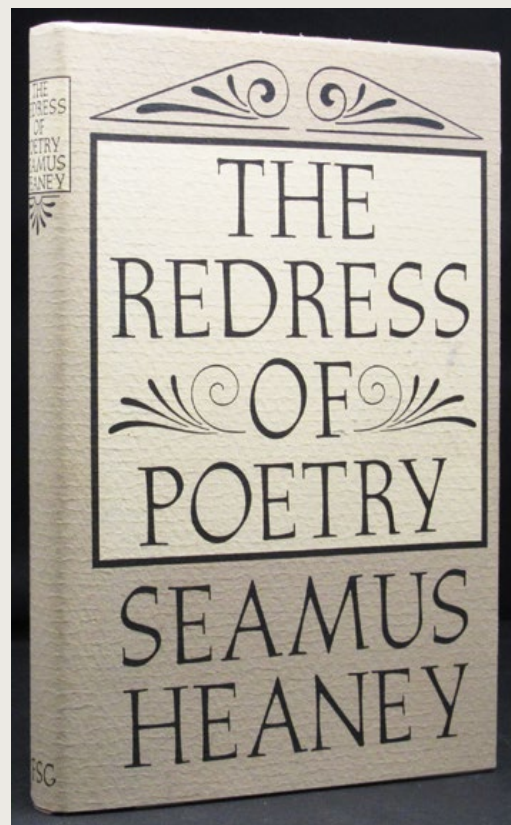
Each of the translations in this book can be read on its own or as part of a triptych. By setting excerpts of Brian Merriman's Cúirt an Mheán Oíche (The Midnight Court) within the acoustic of a classical myth (the story of Orpheus and Eurydice), Seamus Heaney provides a new and illuminating context for the eighteenth-century classic Irish poem. The idea of juxtaposing the

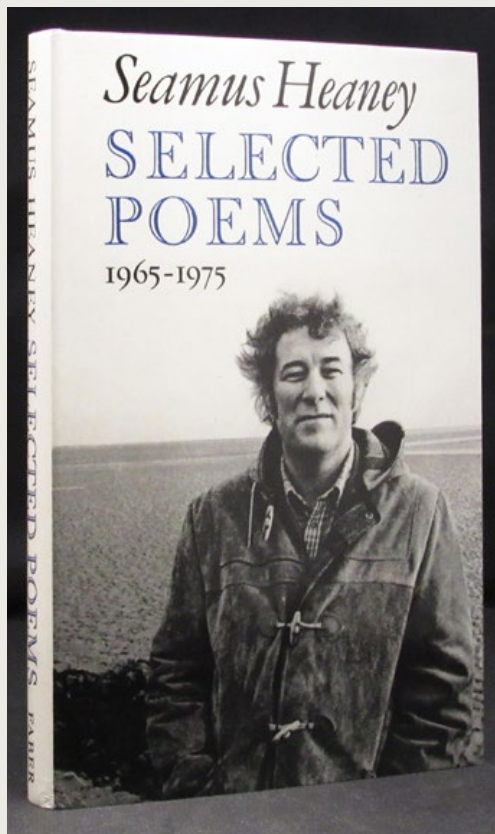
three pieces came out of 'a single impulse', said the poet in his translator's note. Each of the translations can be read on its own or as part of a triptych. By setting it within the acoustic of a classical myth, Heaney added a further chapter to his work as a translator and provided a new and illuminating context for Merriman's classic work." - Gallery Press Brandes & Durkan* A55a
 \$850.

Seamus Heaney's *The Redress of Poetry*
A Flawless Signed Copy of the First Edition

10 Heaney, Seamus. *THE REDRESS OF POETRY* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1995) First American edition, SIGNED BY SEAMUS HEANEY. 8vo, publisher's original brown cloth over boards, lettered in gilt on the spine, in the printed dustjacket with Nobel Prize seal. xviii, 212 pp. A mint copy, as pristine.

SIGNED BY THE POET/AUTHOR AND A FLAWLESS COPY OF THIS FIRST EDITION. *These lectures were given while Heaney was Professor of Poetry at Oxford. From Christopher Marlowe to John Clare to Oscar Wilde and Elizabeth Bishop, he explores the power of poetry to instill spiritual balance and a motion of the soul. His ten lectures speak to "the pleasure of surprise of poetry, its rightness and thereness, the way it is at one moment unforeseeable and at the next indispensable, the way it arrives as something unhindered and self-directing, sweeping ahead into its full potential."*
 \$225.





Selected Poems 1965-1975
Signed by the Poet Seamus Heaney
A Fine First Edition in the Original Dustjacket

11 Heaney, Seamus. *SELECTED POEMS 1965 - 1975* (London: Faber and Faber, 1980) First Edition, First Printing, First Issue with pricing unaltered, SIGNED AND DATED BY SEAMUS HEANEY. 8vo, publisher's original blue cloth lettered on the spine in gilt, and in the original pictorial dustjacket. 136 pp. A very fine copy, the book and jacket both as mint and pristine.

SIGNED AND DATED BY NOBEL PRIZE WINNING POET SEAMUS HEANEY IN MAY OF 1981. For this impressive collection Heaney chose the poems himself from four previous books: *DEATH OF A NATURALIST*; *DOOR INTO THE DARK*; *WINTERING OUT* and *NORTH*. Seventy-one poems are included, these provide a survey of the first ten years of his work and include some of his best known writings.
 \$500.

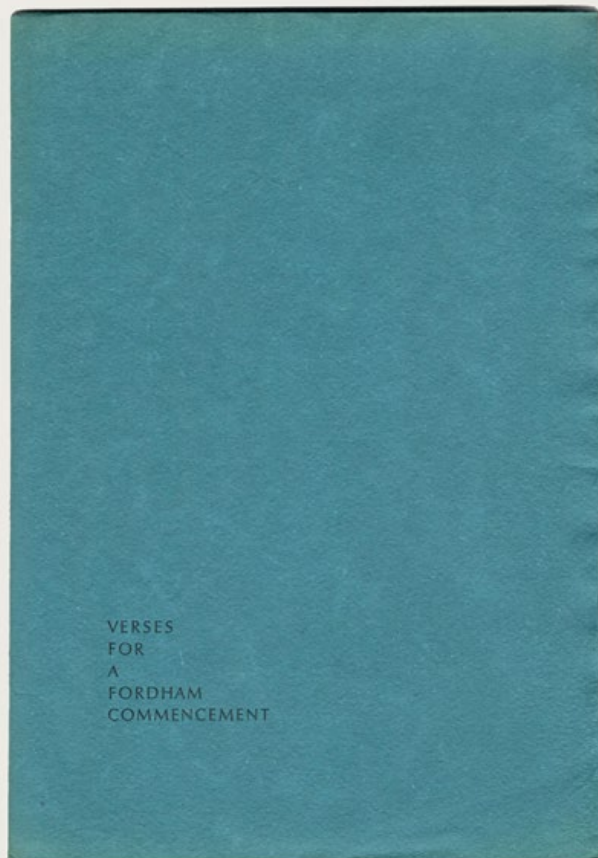
Verses for Fordham Commencement
A Seamus Heaney Rarity - One of Only 226 Copies
Signed Twice by the Poet and With Presentation Inscription

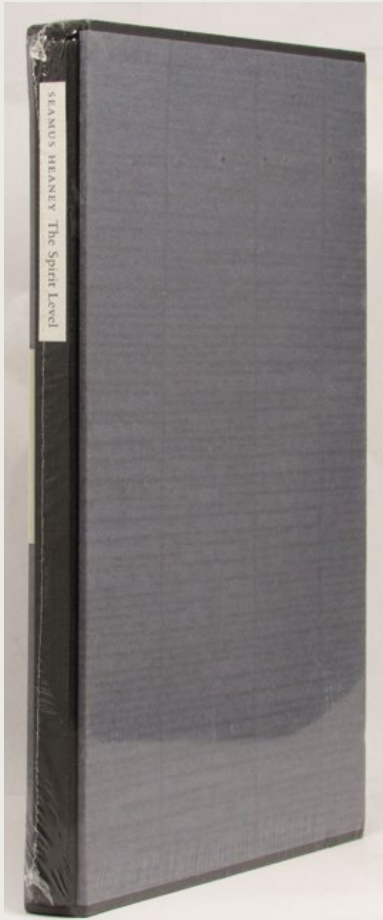
12 Heaney, Seamus. *VERSES FOR FORDHAM COMMENCEMENT* (New York: Nadja, 1984) LIMITED first edition, one of only 226 copies, SIGNED by Heaney on the colophon and again, WITH A PERSONAL PRESENTATION INSCRIPTION DATED. Title-page printed in purple, blue, and black. 4to, publisher's original wrappers of thick double-layered teal/blue paper, the upper cover with lettering in black, stitch bound. Unpaginated, ten leaves plus blanks. A near perfect copy, the state of preservation would be flawless but for one small tea spot, on the margin of one leaf.

VERY SCARCE, BEING ONE OF ONLY 226 COPIES AND LIKELY UNIQUE FOR BEING BOTH SIGNED AND PRESENTED AND SIGNED AGAIN. The inscription reads "To.... / Well met in Dublin / Seamus / 30. XI. 89"

Written for the Fordham University Commencement of May 23rd, 1982; these verses are an unusual romp that ranges from fun and lighthearted to serious as he references such diverse topics as Robert Burns, Haiku, street bombings, gunshots, and even Star Wars.

This limited edition is also beautifully produced. It was printed in Stempel Optima on HMP and Whatman papers, all made possible with public funding from the New York State Council on the Arts.
 \$675.





**Limited Edition - Signed by Seamus Heaney
His Prize-Winning Poetry Collection *The Spirit Level*
A Perfect Copy Still in the Publisher's Shrink Wrap**

13 Heaney, Seamus. *THE SPIRIT LEVEL* (London: Faber and Faber, 1996) LIMITED SIGNED FIRST EDITION, one of only 350 copies signed by the poet/author on the limitation page. 8vo, publisher's original charcoal paper-covered boards backed in black cloth, the spine with a printed paper label, in the gray and black slipcase and still sealed in the publisher's shrink-wrap. 70 pp. A perfect copy, entirely as new and still in the publisher's sealed shrink-wrap. A better copy is unimaginable.

A PERFECT COPY OF THIS AUTHOR SIGNED LIMITED EDITION OF ONLY 350 COPIES. THE SPIRIT LEVEL was Heaney's first collection to be published after winning the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature. It won the 1996 Poetry Prize at the Whitbread Awards and contains over 40 poems.

*"The poems in *The Spirit Level* continue to acknowledge the 'everyday miracles and the living past' which the Swedish Academy recognised in its Nobel citation in 1995. In it, private memories, classical scenes, domestic objects – a whitewash brush, a sofa, a swing – are endowed with talismanic significance, while friends and relatives are invoked in poems such as 'Keeping Going', 'At Banagher' and 'A Call'. As the name suggests, a recurring theme is that of equilibrium and balance, between spiritual and political, past and present – the condition of being, in the words of its iconic final poem 'Postscript', 'neither here nor there'. On its publication in 1996, *The Spirit Level* won the Whitbread Book of the Year." - Heaney Estate.*

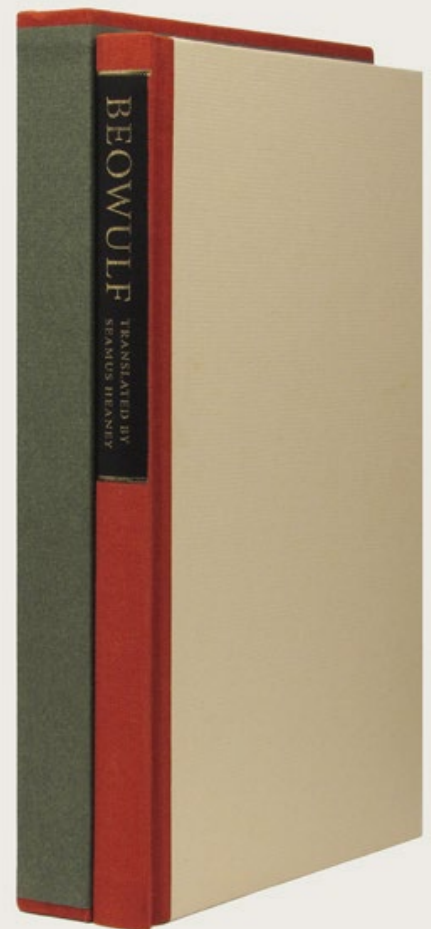
\$1150.

**Seamus Heaney's *Beowulf*
The Great Poet's Superb Work
The Limited Edition of Only 325 Signed Copies
A Fine and Perfect Copy in Original Slipcase**

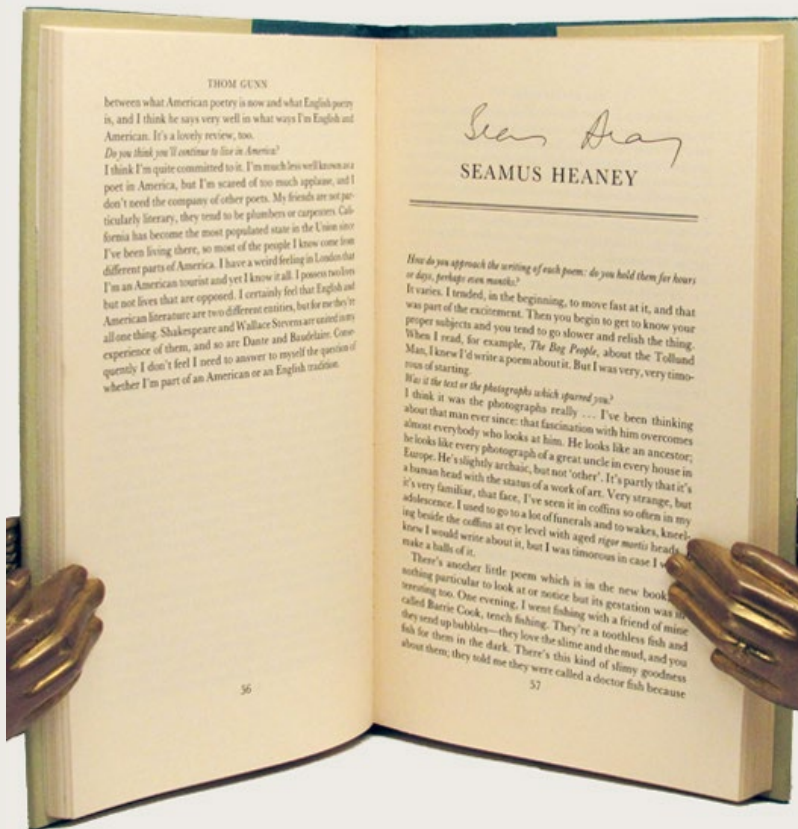
14 Heaney, Seamus [Translator]. *BEOWULF* (London: Faber and Faber, 1999) First edition, LIMITED FIRST ISSUE SIGNED BY HEANEY, and one of only 325 copies of which only 300 hand-numbered copies were for sale, this being 162. With a facsimile of the opening page of the only surviving *Beowulf* manuscript, this illustration was not included in the trade issue and is exclusive to this Limited Printing. 8vo, the issue specially bound by Smith Settle, Otley, West Yorkshire, in cream paper-covered boards backed in reddish-brown linen, with a black cloth spine label gilt lettered, and in the publisher's green paper and reddish-brown linen slipcase. xxx, 106 pp. A mint copy, the book pristine, even the slipcase shows no hint of use, wear, or age.

THE SCARCE LIMITED ISSUE OF THE FIRST EDITION, SIGNED BY THE AWARD-WINNING POET. Heaney gives us a new translation of one of the great Northern classics-- BEOWULF, a foundational piece of European literature. Winner of the Whitbread Award for Book of the Year, 1999. Brandes & Durkan A72a.

\$1500.



**Signed by Nobel Prize Winning Seamus Heaney
And With Signatures of Three Other Important Modern Poets
Paul Muldoon, Tom Paulin and Craig Raine
A Very Fine Copy, As Pristine, In Dustjacket**



15 [Heaney, Seamus; Muldoon, Paul; Paulin, Tom; Raine, Craig, et al] Haffenden, John. *VIEWPOINTS Poets in Conversation With John Haffenden* (London: Faber and Faber, 1981) First edition SIGNED BY FOUR OF IMPORTANT POETS INTERVIEWED, including Nobel Prize Winning Poet Seamus Heaney, Pulitzer Prize Winning Paul Muldoon, Poet and Critic Tom Paulin, and poet and Areté founder Craig Raine. 8vo, publisher's teal cloth, lettered in gilt on the spine, and in the original dustjacket. 189 pp. A very fine copy, pristine and as mint.

FIRST EDITION OF THIS FINE COLLECTION OF INTERVIEWS WITH IMPORTANT LATER 20TH CENTURY POETS SIGNED BY FOUR OF THEM: Seamus Heaney, Paul Muldoon, Tom Paulin and Craig Raine. Heaney has signed on the opening page of his interview, the other three have signed on the final pages of theirs. The work includes conversations with ten poets, the others being Douglas Dunn, Thom Gunn, Geoffrey Hill, Thomas Kinsella, Philip Larkin and Richard Murphy. The interviews are all conducted with John Haffenden, professor of English Literature at the University of Sheffield. \$650.

BUDDENBROOKS

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**Info@buddenbrooks.com or Buddenbrooks@att.net
www.Buddenbrooks.com**

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we ask that you notify us by phone or email in advance.
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